



**STATE OF TENNESSEE
COUNCIL ON CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH**

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Council on Children's Mental Health
April 25, 2019
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
3310 Perimeter Hill Drive
Nashville, TN 37211

MEETING SUMMARY

Attendees:

Elizabeth Ball	Paul Highfill	John Rust
Julia Barlar	Sherri Hill	Jordan Scruggs
Carole Beltz	Kurt Hippel	Lindsay Sinicki
Melissa Binkley	Crystal Hutchins	Russette Sloan
Cory Bradfield	Melissa Isbell	Natasha Smith
Jonathan Clark	Ashley Jasinski	Garrett Spurlin
Susan Cope	Sumita Keller	Roger Stewart
Katie Daugherty	Richard Kennedy	Vicki Taylor
Fay Delk	Melissa McGee	Heather Taylor Griffith
Brenda Donaldson	Teryn McNeal	Eric Valinor
Kristin Dunn	Jessica Mullins	Joseph Valinor
Anjanette Eash	Kayla Mumphrey	Keri Virgo
Connie Farmer	Jill Murphy	Will Voss
Brittany Farrar	Amy Olson	Don Walker
Laritha Fentress	Gigi Palsey	Alysia Williams
Krystal Fortney	Tim Perry	Bianca Williams
Kim Fyke-Vance	Taylor Rumsey Phipps	Jules Wilson
Ashleigh Hall	Elizabeth Setty Reeve	Matt Yancey
Shellie Hall	Mary Rolando	

I. Welcome, Introductions and Announcements – Richard Kennedy, Executive Director, Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth and Matt Yancey, Deputy Commissioner, Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services

- Kennedy called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m. He made a few opening remarks and provided a brief description of CCMH.

- Kennedy thanked everyone for making attendance a priority and recognized TCCY staff members and specifically thanked the staff at Youth Villages for their generosity in allowing CCMH to meet in their space today.
- Kennedy addressed a few housekeeping matters before moving through the agenda and reminded attendees to sign in on the sign-in sheet, essential for reporting requirements related to the federal System of Care grant.
- Kennedy asked for introductions and announcements.
- Kennedy talked about Children’s Advocacy Days. He reported over 600 people from across the state with the Governor and First Lady present to kick off the event. The legislative session is coming to an end soon and Steve Petty will provide a legislative update at the next meeting. Kennedy also talked briefly about money given to TCCY to conduct the *Building Strong Brains* Brain Frames trainings led by Jennifer Drake-Croft.
- Yancey provided a brief departmental update. He provided information on Dr. Monty Burks, State Director of Faith-Based Initiatives. Dr. Burks travels around the state and country and was recently asked by President Trump to share the stage at the Rx Drug and Heroin Summit in Atlanta, Georgia on Wednesday. Yancey shared the video of Dr. Burks at the conference (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3fT063KdsfA>).
- Yancey spoke about the Jason Foundation, Inc. (JFI), dedicated to the prevention of the “Silent Epidemic” of youth suicide through educational and awareness programs that equip young people, educators/youth workers and parents with the tools and resources to help identify and assist at-risk youth. He recently met with Clark Flatt, President of the Jason Foundation, to discuss suicide prevention.
- Yancey announced the Tennessee Department of Education was awarded a new grant cycle for the AWARE projects which provides school-based mental health services in identified counties. He also thanked his staff for all of the work they do.
- Yancey announced Children’s Mental Health Awareness Day is Thursday, May 9th.

II. Children’s Mental Health Awareness – Heather Taylor Griffith, LCSW, Director of the Office of Children, Young Adults and Families, Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuses Services; Taylor Ramsey Phipps, Director of Development and Marketing, and Garrett Spurlin, Social Marketing, Tennessee Voices for Children

- Phipps and Spurlin spoke about the upcoming 14th Annual National Children’s Mental Health Awareness Day (CMHAD) scheduled for May 9th.
- Spurlin talked about the social media campaign efforts to make people aware of supporting a child’s mental health and the community as a whole.
- Phipps and Spurlin also shared details of CMHAD events across the state.
- Phipps shared a video from the 2018 Children’s Mental Health Awareness Day (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jpDHICWquds>).

III. Approval of Meeting Summaries

- Motion to accept the February 28, 2019 meeting summary for CCMH (**MURPHY, MOTION, BALL, SECONDED, PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**)
- Kennedy thanked Natasha Smith of TCCY for preparing the meeting summary for the CCMH meetings.

IV. Clinical High Risk for Psychosis (CHR-P) and School Based Behavioral Health Liaisons/On Track TN: First Episode Psychosis Initiative – Jessica Mullins, LMSW, Director, Youth and Young Adult Initiatives, Tennessee Department of Mental Health (TDMHSAS)

- Mullins reported on the School Based Behavioral Health Liaisons program. The program provides prevention services for children and youth in middle and high schools with a specific focus on providing trauma-informed services.
- Mullins reported a total of 36 Tennessee counties with the School Based Behavioral Health Liaison program and 12 agencies within the schools. The counties are Anderson, Benton, Blount, Cannon, Carter, Chester, Cocke, Coffee, Crockett, Davidson, Decatur, Dickson, Dyer, Gibson, Greene, Hamilton, Hawkins, Hickman, Houston, Humphreys, Johnson, Knox, Lake, Loudon, Macon, Madison, Maury, Morgan, Roane, Rutherford, Sullivan, Trousdale, Unicoi, Washington, Wayne, Williamson.
- Liaisons provide face-to-face consultation with classroom teachers who will enhance learning environments for children who have or are at-risk for Serious Emotional Disturbance (SED), behavior problems, or substance use disorders. Liaisons also provide training and education for the classroom teacher and serves as a link between the school and the child's family.
- Children who participate in the program must be in a middle or high school which has the School Based Behavioral Health Liaisons program.
- Mullins also reported on First Episode Psychosis Initiative (FEPI). On Track TN was designed to provide early intervention services for youth and young adults ages 15 to 30 who have experienced a first-episode of psychosis. The program uses a comprehensive intervention model with a team of mental health professionals and support services, focusing on helping people work toward recovery and meeting personal goals. On Track TN services are available in select counties through four providers.
 - Memphis – Shelby County: Alliance Healthcare
 - Nashville – Davidson County: Mental Health Cooperative
 - Northwest Tennessee – Benton, Carroll, Gibson, Henry, Lake, Obion, and Weakley Counties: Carey Counseling
 - Chattanooga – Hamilton County: Helen Ross McNabb Center
 - Knoxville – Knox County: Helen Ross McNabb Center
- Mullins announced Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) awarded \$1.6 million for four-years for the Clinical High Risk for Psychosis (CHR-P) program in in Shelby County. CHR-P program utilizes a stepped-care model to assist youth and young adults ages 12 to 25 who are at clinical risk for developing psychosis for the purpose of improving access, quality, and utilization of services and supports for youth, young adults, and their

families. Services in this program are limited to residents of Shelby County/Memphis and are provided by Case Management, Inc. Services started in October.

- Mullins reported TDMHSAS received a second grant for expansion of TN Healthy Transitions from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The award provides \$5 million over the course of five years for continued work. Tennessee is one of 14 grantees that received awards including other states, the District of Columbia, and Native American Tribes.
- With the new funding, TN Healthy Transitions will add locations in Nashville and Greene County through partnerships with Mental Health Cooperative, Frontier Health, and Tennessee Voices for Children. The original TN Healthy Transitions serves Benton, Carroll, Gibson, Hamilton, Henry, Lake, Obion, and Weakley Counties and is SAMHSA funded through September 2019. Capacity built through the original grant has served as a foundation for Juvenile Justice Diversion Programs and other services for youth and young adults.

V. Juvenile Justice Programming – Elizabeth Setty Reeve, JD, Director of Juvenile Justice Programming, Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (TDMHSAS)

- In an effort to divert youth and families from initial or continued involvement with juvenile court and the Department of Children Services (DCS), TDMHSAS, in collaboration with DCS, Administrative Offices of the Court (AOC), Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth (TCCY), juvenile courts, and the grantee service providers, has implemented the Juvenile Justice Reform Local Diversion program.
- The primary purpose of the JJR Grant is to expand community-based services and training to provide treatment options for juvenile courts to utilize across the state, specifically services and training that are evidence-based and outcomes oriented. In addition, the JJR Grant aims to support *Building Strong Brains* (Tennessee’s ACEs Initiative) by supporting youth served by the JJR Grant in building resiliency and educating professionals on responding in a trauma-informed manner.
- The goals are to divert youth in juvenile courts from further penetration into the juvenile justice system through the use of community-based services, rather than commitment to state custody, where treatment through community-based services better addresses the youth’s needs; to establish, expand, and strengthen partnerships between juvenile courts, community behavioral health providers, child welfare, juvenile justice, education, youth and families, and other key stakeholders to maximize coordination in the diversion of youth from state custody; to ensure resiliency, well-being, and overall connectedness to the community for juvenile justice involved youth; and to measure outcomes in the minimization of commitment of youth to state custody and recidivism in the form of re-arrest.
- The target population are youth that have been referred to juvenile court for a delinquent charge, including youth adjudicated for a delinquent offense and at risk of commitment to the Tennessee Department of Children’s Services (DCS); youth who have previously been on probation, pre-trial diversion, judicial diversion, or involved in other pre-custodial programs or aftercare and have re-offended and are at risk of being placed in DCS custody, for which community-based

services would better address their treatment needs; and when and where appropriate, youth deemed unruly can be served with JJR Grant services if the services are appropriate and will prevent the youth from being placed in state custody.

- Reeve said the intended outcomes are to reduce the annual rate of out of home placement of unruly and delinquent youth, including commitments to DCS, in targeted communities by 20 percent, as compared to a baseline rate of total placements during Fiscal Year 2018. She also wants to reduce the cost-savings per youth by calculating average cost to provide evidenced-based, community-based services and training from average cost to support out of home placements.
- The goal is ultimately to improve quality of life outcomes (e.g. social relationships, emotional wellbeing, community engagement, health, etc.) for each youth served with JJR Grant services.
- An additional goal is thirty percent reduction in recidivism (e.g. incurring a new delinquent offense after or during a therapeutic intervention) in the identified targeted areas.
- Reeve reported last summer the department put out an announcement of funds and six service providers were chosen: Carey Counseling Center, Inc.; Tennessee Voices for Children; Youth Villages; Volunteer Behavioral Health Care System; Helen Ross McNabb Center and Frontier Health.
- Will Voss from Tennessee Voices for Children talked about the three counties being served and the services/trainings provided.
- Tim Perry with Frontier Health serves eight counties in Northeast Tennessee. There are 11 courts in those counties and they received letters from 10 out of the 11 magistrates. He spoke about intensive in-home services and the Teen Outreach Program (TOP).
- Volunteer Behavioral Health Care System talked about the services they are providing to give the families a natural support system and continue to fill staff positions for this program.
- Youth Villages serves a large portion of the counties and talked about collaborative problem solving to build the skills to support the families.
- Reeve said a youth does not have to have a diagnosis to participate in this effort.

VI. System of Care Across Tennessee (SOCAT) Panel – Keri Virgo, SOCAT Director, Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services

- Virgo reported on various work of the SOCAT Team, including upcoming family peer leadership academies. The first peer leadership academy was held last year in Nashville. This year, there will be three regional events for the family peer leadership academies on May 4th in Knoxville, May 11th in Nashville and May 18th in Memphis.
- She discussed efforts TDMHSAS continues to make to ensure further expansion and reach of SOCAT. The SOCAT Training and Technical Assistance Center (TTAC) is also looking for content experts in a variety of subjects related to children's mental health.
- Lindsey Sinicki recently completed a national training and is now a trainer for TDMHSAS on cultural & linguistic competence.
- Virgo spoke about the SOCAT website, the subscription process and the opportunity to participate in trainings via webinars or onsite.

- Virgo reported as of today, SOCAT has enrolled 160 families. She thanked the divisional coordinators and the provider sites.
- She shared more information on High Fidelity Wraparound, the service provision model used by SOCAT providers to ensure care coordination for children and families.
- Virgo talked about efforts made to ensure the sustainability in the last year and a half of the grant and Tennessee lessons learned from past SOC work. She emphasized the importance of shifting the mindset of organizations to more care coordination and recent focus group discussions to make sure the same message is getting out consistently across the state. Virgo mentioned a high fidelity toolkit and data collection process with DCS and data sharing with TennCare.

VII. Statewide Young Adult Leadership Council (YALC) – Jules Wilson, Youth and Young Adult Coordinator, Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services; Crystal Hutchins, Healthy Transitions Youth Coordinator, Tennessee Voices for Children; Gigi Palsey, Statewide YALC Member; Jordan Scruggs, Hamilton County and Statewide YALC Member; Joseph Valinor, Hamilton County and Statewide YALC Member; and Garrett Spurlin, Social Media Specialist, Tennessee Voices for Children

- Wilson provided a brief history of the Healthy Transitions programs, which supported the start of the Statewide Young Adult Leadership Council (YALC) and facilitated the panel discussion of members.
- The YALC members introduced themselves and answered a series of questions to help the participants understand the purpose and progress of the Council. They spoke about the importance of relationships made throughout the process and how they are able to possibly change policy. Dr. Monty Burks quote “The opposite of addiction is relationships” was mentioned a few times.
- Valinor spoke about his personal lived experience in addressing his needs and the challenges associated with his diagnosis and medications.
- Palsey spoke about being a young adult, the idea that there is no time to grow up and the loss of the luxury to experience actually being a young adult.
- Scruggs spoke about being a millennial in 2019 and how these young adults are their own experts, as well as shifting culture over the last decade.
- Wilson thanked them for their vulnerability and honesty.

Next CCMH Meeting Dates:

Thursday, June 20, 2019 (Youth Villages)

Thursday, August 22, 2019 (TBD)

Thursday, October 10, 2019 (TBD)

Meeting adjourned at 2:01 p.m.

Council on Children’s Mental Health Purpose Statement

Design a comprehensive plan for a statewide System of Care for children and families that is family-driven, youth-guided, community-based, and culturally and linguistically competent.